

USSN 09/828,069

PATENT RESPONSE

REMARKS

With this Response, Applicant cancelled Claims 1-15, 53-103, 141-155, and 193-243, by which Claims 16-52, 104-140, 156-192, and 244-280 are currently pending.

As a preliminary matter, Applicant notes the following as a courtesy to the Examiner, which Applicant assumes were typographical errors. If the Examiner intended otherwise, Applicant seeks immediate clarification:

1. On page 2, lines 4 and 6-7 of the Detailed Action, the Examiner notes that both Group I and Group II are classified in "class 713, subclass 201." If this statement is accurate, then Applicant maintains that the Restriction Requirement is improper and the Examiner should withdraw it, as this would allow the Examiner to search a single class. However, Applicant assumes the Examiner intended to indicate that Group II is not classified in "class 731, subclass 201" as written, but that it is instead classified in "class 707, subclass 3," which is what the Examiner appears to have indicated on page 3, lines 5-6.

2. On page 3 of the Detailed Action, the Examiner indicates Claim 7 is in species D1, by which Applicant assumes the Examiner intended to indicate Claim 8.

3. On page 3 of the Detailed Action, the Examiner indicates Claim 8 is in species E1, by which Applicant assumes the Examiner intended to indicate Claim 9.

4. On page 4 of the Detailed Action, the Examiner indicates Claim 9 is in species F1, by which Applicant assumes the Examiner intended to indicate Claim 10.

5. On page 4 of the Detailed Action, the Examiner indicates Claim 10 is in species G1, by which Applicant assumes the Examiner intended to indicate Claim 11.

6. On page 4 of the Detailed Action, the Examiner indicates Claim 11 is in species H1, by which Applicant assumes the Examiner intended to indicate Claim 12.

7. On page 4 of the Detailed Action, the Examiner indicates Claim 12 is in species I1, by which Applicant assumes the Examiner intended to indicate Claim 13.

8. On page 4 of the Detailed Action, the Examiner indicates Claim 13 is in species J1, by which Applicant assumes the Examiner intended to indicate Claim 14.

However, as Applicant will elaborate upon subsequently, Applicant will elect Group II, by which Applicant notes the above comments for the record and the Examiner's future convenience.

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Now then, the Examiner restricted the application under 35 U.S.C. § 121 as follows:

Group	Claims
I	1-15, 53-103, 141-155, and 193-243
II	16-52, 104-140, 156-192, and 244-280

Respectfully, Applicant traverses and requests withdrawal.

Nevertheless, as required by the Examiner in response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby elects **Group II** (i.e., Claims 16-52, 104-140, 156-192, and 244-280) with traverse, by which Applicant cancels the remaining Claims of Group I (i.e., Claims 1-15, 53-103, 141-155, and 193-243) without prejudice to their future prosecution. Applicant reserves the right to pursue these remaining claims with appropriate, pending divisional applications.

In accordance with this Group II Election, the Examiner also requires Applicant to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits under 35 U.S.C. § 121 according to the following:

Species	Claims
A2	43, 131, 183, 271
B2	44, 132, 184, 272
C2	45, 133, 185, 273
D2	46, 134, 186, 274
E2	47, 135, 187, 275
F2	48, 136, 188, 276
G2	49, 137, 189, 277
H2	50, 138, 190, 278
I2	51, 139, 191, 279
J2	52, 140, 192, 280

Respectfully, Applicant traverses and requests withdrawal.

Nevertheless, as required by the Examiner in response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby elects the fingerprints of **Species A2** (i.e., Claims 43, 131, 183, 271) with traverse. Accordingly, the following claims read on Species A2: 16 - 43, 104 - 131, 156 - 183, and 244 - 270.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant believes Applicant has responded fully to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement as required and that Claims 16-52, 104-140, 156-192, and 244-280 of Group II are currently pending. Moreover, Applicant respectfully submits that these pending claims are in a condition for allowance, which Applicant respectfully requests.

Applicant believes this Response should allow the Examiner to allow the above-referenced patent application to issue as a U.S. patent without further amendments to the specification or claims. Thus, Applicant also requests notification to that effect.

If questions arise, please telephone the undersigned attorney.

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EXTENSION OF TIME

The proceedings herein are for a patent application, and the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 apply. Applicant does not believe this Response requires an extension of time. However, Applicant hereby requests a conditional petition in case Applicant inadvertently overlooked the need to petition for an extension of time, in which case Applicant requests that any and all applicable charges be charged to Applicant's Deposit Account No. 23-2053. Applicant intends this authorization to be carried throughout the pendency of this Application, in full accordance with 37 CFR 1.136

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 1/20/05
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